

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

EUR-12 NEA-09 L-02 H-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 /070 W
----- 098098

R 281448Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9290
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNWFC, ECOSOC
SUBJ: INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING
OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL- FEBRUARY 24-25

1. FIRST SESSION OF MEETING CHAIRED BY AMB. AKHUND (PAKISTAN)
AS PRESIDENT OF ECOSOC. AFTER BRIEF OPENING STATEMENT, AND
WITHOUT OBJECTION, CHAIR GIVEN TO AMB. ABDEL MEGUID (EGYPT)
AS REPRESENTATIVE OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARYAGENERAL MARIE.

2. COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HANNAH OPENED SESSION WITH
PROGRESS REPORT WHICH DELINEATED THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY
VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE BODIES (FAO COUNCIL, ECOSOC, 29TH GA, ETC.)
AND UN SECRETARIAT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
RECOMMENDATIONS. IT WAS PROPOSED THAT FIRST MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL BE CONVENED JUNE 24-25, PRECEDED BY TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS
AT THE DEPUTY MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

3. THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL UTILIZE
RULES OF THE GA UNTIL IT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPILE, PROPOSE
AND ADOPT ITS OWN RULES. AFTER SOME BRIEF DISCUSSIONS, THIS
PROPOSAL ACCEPTED BY INFORMAL GROUP.

4. THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING THEN FOCUSED UPON THE DRAFT
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PROVISIONAL AGENDA CONTAINED IN CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER NO. 1.
IN CONSIDERATION OF ITEM 5, ENTITLED "PROGRESS REPORT ON THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GA AND THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, " INDIA ARGENTINA AND MEXICO PROPOSED THAT THE LANGUAGE "PARTICULARLY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 19(TRADE MATTERS)" BE ADOPTED. THE U.S. IMMEDIATELY OBJECTED STRENUOUSLY TO THIS SKEWING OF THE PROGRESS REPORT, HEAVILY EMPHASIZING THAT WHILE THE QUESTION OF GLOBAL FOOD SUFFICIENCY INEVITABLY RAISED SOME TRADE ISSUES, IT IS NOT DESIRABLE TO CONVERT COUNCIL INTO A TRADE NEGOTIATING GROUP. STRONG SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM SWEDEN AND UK.

5. THIS ISSUE CARRIED OVER TO AFTERNOON SESSION WHERE, AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, THE US REP PROPOSED THAT THE AMENDMENT "IN IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 19" BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE "AND RESOLUTION 22." NET EFFECT OF THIS WAS TO INVITE THE COUNCIL TO GIVEN PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ALL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESSES AS OPPOSED TO THE TRADE ASPECTS. NO OTHER SUBSTANTIVE MODIFICATIONS MADE ON DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA WITH RESULT THAT INFORMAL GROUP ACCEPTED HANNAH'S PROPOSALS AD REFERENDUM. THE INFORMAL GROUP ROSE AT 6:00 P.M.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, CONSULTANTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN00615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750072-0028
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975021/aaaaaagh.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL- FEBRUARY 24-25
TAGS: EGEN, PORG, ECOSOC, WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006